THE LITTLE PILGRIM

"We will go up by the King's highway."

Vol. XIV. JUNE 9, 1889. No. 23.

Suffer Little Children to come unto Me,

Of Such is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Little Lights.

ONE evening a traveler stood in a great church. No lights were burning and it was very dark. But soon a door opened and one little light was seen, then another and another, till hundreds of little candles made the whole building bright and beautiful. The candles were carried by little children who had come to "The Festival of Tapers." We do not have exactly such a festival, but Children's Day is quite like it, for then little people gather in the church, and do they not make it bright with their happy faces? "Ye are the light of the world," said our Saviour. Are you one of these little lights? If every child will try to let his light shine, the world will very soon be full of brightness and joy, and the darkness of sin will be no more. Will you begin this day to shine for Jesus?

The Child of Nazareth.

THAT little home in Nazareth,
How bright it must have been,
When in it dwelt the blessed Child
Who knew no touch of sin.

How glad his mother must have felt
As day by day he grew,
In strength and beauty by her side,
So pure, so sweet, so true.

And often as she spoke his name,
Dear name, and angel-given,
And quickly at her call he came,
She saw the light of heaven

Upon the gentle lifted face
And in the wistful eyes,
That were so strangely beautiful,
So loving, meek, and wise.

I think he was a joyous child,
And where he went and came,
The mountain-kids about him played,
The wild wood birds grew tame.

None ever heard a hasty word,
From this fair, sinless Child,
None ever saw him frown, but all
Were happy when he smiled.

I 'm sure he did not fully know
His Father's business yet,
But still his hands were swift to do
The tasks his mother set.

And up and down the hillside paths
His feet were quick to run
On errands if his mother sent,
For was he not her Son?

I like to think, my little ones,
That on the birthday page,
The very age that you are now,
Was once the Christ-child's age.

And, as he stands at God's right hand,
The King of earth and heaven,
He comprehends your childish thoughts,
Though you are only seven,

Or nine, or twelve. He knows about
The prizes you would win.
He was like you in every thing,
Except the blight of sin.

Oh, who can help but love him well,
This Friend for life and death,
Whom God and man with favor crowned,
The Child of Nazareth?

— *Mrs. M. E. Sangster.*

Lesson Story.

MARK 15: 1-20.

THE rulers of the Jews could not put any one to death unless the Roman governor allowed them to do so. So in the morning after Jesus had been tried by the chief priests and elders, he was taken to the palace of Pilate for trial. The rulers who went with him told Pilate many things against Jesus, and one was that he called himself a king. Pilate asked him if he was the king of the Jews. Jesus said that he was, but that he was not like other kings. Pilate did not really wish to have Jesus put to death. At the passover feast, which was being held, a prisoner was to be set free. Pilate asked whether Jesus should be set free or Barabbas, who was a robber and murderer. The chief priests said that they wished Barabbas to go free.

"What then shall I do with Jesus?" asked Pilate. The crowd shouted loudly, "Crucify him!" "What evil hath he done?" asked Pilate. Still the excited crowd cried, "Crucify him!" And so Pilate gave him over to the Jews, saying that he wished nothing to do with putting Jesus to death, but that they must take the blame. The Jews then took Jesus away, after he had been cruelly beaten with a kind of whip called a scourge. The soldiers took Jesus to a hall where they put on him a purple robe and a crown of thorns, and made much fun of him. Then he was led away to be crucified. But he patiently bore all these things, and said not an angry word.

GOLDEN TEXT. — **Pilate saith unto them, Take ye him and crucify him.** — John 19: 6.

Bible Lesson.

1. And straightway in the morning the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council, and bound Jesus, and carried *him* away, and delivered *him* to Pilate.

2. And Pilate asked him, Art thou the King of the Jews? And he answering said unto him, Thou sayest *it*.

3. And the chief priests accused him of many things; but he answered nothing.

4. And Pilate asked him again, saying, Answerest thou nothing? behold how many things they witness against thee.

5. But Jesus yet answered nothing; so that Pilate marvelled.

6. Now at *that* feast he released unto them one prisoner, whomsoever they desired.

7. And there was *one* named Barabbas, *which lay* bound with them that had made insurrection with him, who had committed murder in the insurrection.

8. And the multitude crying aloud began to desire *him to do* as he had ever done unto them.

9. But Pilate answered them, saying, Will ye that I release unto you the King of the Jews?

10. For he knew that the chief priests had delivered him for envy.

11. But the chief priests moved the people, that he should rather release Barabbas unto them.

12. And Pilate answered and said again unto them, What will ye then that I shall do *unto him* whom ye call the King of the Jews?

13. And they cried out again, Crucify him.

14. Then Pilate said unto them, Why, what evil hath he done? And they cried out the more exceedingly, Crucify him.

15. And *so* Pilate, willing to content the people, released Barabbas unto them, and delivered Jesus, when he had scourged *him*, to be crucified.

16. And the soldiers led him away into the hall, called Prætorium; and they call together the whole band.

17. And they clothed him with purple, and platted a crown of thorns, and put it about his *head*,

18. And began to salute him, Hail, King of the Jews!

19. And they smote him on the head with a reed, and did spit upon him, and bowing *their* knees worshipped him.

20. And when they had mocked him, they took off the purple from him, and put his own clothes on him, and led him out to crucify him. — MARK 15: 1-20.

Lesson Questions.

1. To whom did the Jewish rulers take Jesus? *To Pilate, the Roman governor.*

2. Why did they do this? *Because they could not put Jesus to death unless Pilate said they might.*

3. What did they say about Jesus? *Many things which were untrue.*

4. What did Pilate ask Jesus? *If he was a king.*

5. What did Jesus answer? *That he was, but not like earthly kings.*

6. What did Pilate ask the rulers? *Which of two prisoners he should set free.*

7. Who were the two? *Jesus and Barabbas.*

8. Who was Barabbas? *A wicked murderer.*

9. Which did they wish set free? *Barabbas.*

10. What did they say about Jesus? "*Crucify him.*"

11. What was done to Jesus? *He was whipped with a scourge, and then given to the Jews.*

12. What did the soldiers do to him? *They dressed him up, put on a crown of thorns, and made fun of him.*

13. What was then done with him? *He was led away to be crucified.*

14. How did Jesus bear his sufferings? *Very patiently.*

PATIENT IN SUFFERING.

HE suffered cruelty and shame,
He wore a crown of thorns for me.
Oh, from his meekness may I learn
To bear all troubles patiently.

LESSON ECHOES.

Jesus who was once crowned with thorns is now crowned with glory. He is now King of all loving hearts.

Published weekly by the CONGREGATIONAL SUNDAY-SCHOOL AND PUBLISHING SOCIETY, Boston, Mass., at 25 cents a year, postage prepaid. Entered as second-class mail matter.

PRESS OF SAMUEL USHER, BOSTON, MASS.